

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

DCA EUROPE

INFO USNMR SHAPE

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - OMISSION PARA 3 LINE 3

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: INTERCONNECTION OF NATO AND US COMMUNICATIONS

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MSG

REF: (A) USNATO 6210, DECEMBER 20, 1973

(B) USNATO 0253

(C) AC/270-D/113

1. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO DESIGNATION OF SHAPE AS
NATO ACTION AGENCY AS OUTLINED IN REFERENCE (B), PROVIDED
CLOSE COORDINATION WITH NICSMA IS MAINTAINED DURING
IMPLEMENTATION. USEUCOM AND DCA-EUR ARE DESIGNATED
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PRIMARY U.S. ACTION AGENCIES FOR INTERCONNECTION.

2. THE JOINT INTERCONNECT STUDY PERFORMED BY SHAPE AND USEUCOM DEMONSTRATED THE FEASIBILITY OF INTERCONNECTION AT 14 SITES. IT HAS SERVED ITS PURPOSE, AND HAS BEEN OVERTAKEN BY THE DCFO/NICSMA FOLLOW-ON STUDY WHICH APPEARS TO OFFER MORE PROMISE FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION. THE DCFO/NICSMA STUDY INDICATES SEVERAL SITES ARE ALREADY INTERCONNECTED, AND RECOMMENDS ALTERNATIVE SITES AS BEING MORE OPERATIONALLY AND/OR COST EFFECTIVE. WE WILL AGREE TO INTERCONNECTING ACE HIGH/DCS ON THE BASIS OF THE DCFO/NICSMA STUDY PROVIDED SHAPE CONCURS.

3. THE INTERCONNECT STUDY MUST BE FOLLOWED BY AN ENGINEERING/IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THOSE SITES NOT ALREADY INTERCONNECTED. THIS PLAN MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF BOTH THE U.S. AND OF NATO AND MUST INCLUDE COST INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE ACTION. INASMUCH AS IT MUST PRECEDE THE INFRASTRUCTURE ACTION, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT EXPEDITING IT WOULD BE THE KEY TO EXPEDITING THE OVERALL PROJECT. RECOMMEND SHAPE PREPARE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE DOCUMENTS WITH ASSISTANCE OF USCINCEUR, DCA-EUR AND NICSMA.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT NORMAL INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING SHOULD BE PURSUED. FYI: CONGRESSIONAL CONSTRAINTS ON PREFINANCING, AND BASIC U.S. POSITION ON NEED TO REVIEW PROJECTS IN CONTEXT OF BALANCED INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM, WILL REQUIRE JUSTIFICATION OF CLEAR MONETARY SAVINGS OR SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL BENEFITS PRIOR TO APPROVAL OF ACCELERATING INFRASTRUCTURE PROCESS. END FYI. REFERENCE (C) MAKES SUBMISSION OF SPECIAL STUDY TO DPC UNNECESSARY, AND SUBMISSION IS NOT CONSIDERED DESIRABLE.

5. WITHIN THE FOREGOING CONSTRAINTS, APPROVAL IS GRANTED TO PROCEED VIGOROUSLY WITH THE CURRENT ACE-HIGH/DCS INTERCONNECTION PROJECT TO INSURE INCLUSION IN SLICE XXVI. KISSINGER

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